

Approved For Release 2008/01/29 : CIA-RDP83-00418R006800130002-0

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Date Distributed: 24 September
1956

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COUNTRY: USSR

SUBJECT:

No. Pages: 4

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DATE OF

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I. Military

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- (b) The 8th Zastava was subordinate to the 1st Komendatura, MUN-2038 (letter unknown), commanded by Major Vashutin, fnu, and was located approximately 50 km. southwest of Lenkoran (N 38-45, E 48-50), at Kyalvyaz. The 1st Komendatura was subordinate to the 44th Lenkoran Border Guard Otryad, MUN 2038 "VP", located in an unidentified caserne at Lenkoran. The CO of the 44th Otryad was Lt. Col. Kharin, fnu. The 44th Border Guard Otryad was subordinate to the Transcaucasian Border District, MUN unknown, which was commanded by Major General or Lt. Gen. Prusskiy, fnu. District Hqs. was in Baku.

- (c) The actual strength [redacted] in June 1956 was 44 EM and two officers. [redacted] the authorized strength was 50 EM and three officers. [redacted] the headquarters strength of the 1st Komendatura was 30 EM and 10 officers; of the headquarters strength of the 44th Otryad, 150 EM and 10 officers.

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(d)

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- (e) Major items of equipment [redacted] include the following:

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Signal Equipment

- (1) Unidentified radio receiver, 1947 model.
- (2) RBM-1 radio receiver and transmitter.
- (3) TAI-43 telephones
- (4) S-2, KLON, TANTAL 2, and R-1 (rocket trip release) signal devices
- (5) TSB (4x2) switchboard
- (6) Unidentified walkie-talkie (3 km range)

Individual Weapons

- (1) Fifty percent of the EM were armed with the Kalashnikov SMG, issued in January 1956
- (2) Fifty percent of the EM were armed with the Semenov carbine, issued in January 1956.
- (3) Officers were armed with the Stechkin pistol, with wooden holster, issued in January 1956

Crew Served Weapons

- (1) Unidentified LMG weighing approximately eight kilograms and using 7.62 rounds interchangeably with the Kalashnikov SMG and Semenov carbine.
- (2) 7.62mm Goryunov HMG, M 1943.

Vehicles

- (1) Unknown number of GAZ-51 trucks
- (2) Willys jeeps

- (f) At the 8th Zastava headquarters, unit EM were shown an approximately 45-minute-long training film on an atomic blast. [redacted] the film [redacted] began with an explosion of a bomb allegedly dropped from an aircraft that was not shown in the film. [redacted] film was shown only to officers, but during summer 1955, all EM were required to see it.

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2. [redacted] other units.

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Units of 44th Border Guard Otryad

- (a) 2nd Komendatura located in Astara (N 38-28, E 48-52). The CO was unknown.

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- (b) 3rd Komendatura located along the shore of the Caspian Sea near Lenkoran. The CO was unknown.
- (c) Signal Company located in an unidentified caserne with the 44th Border Guard Otryad.
- (d) Motor Transport Company located in the same caserne as above Signal Company. The CO was unknown.
- (e) Service Company located in the same caserne as the above Signal Company. The CO was unknown.
- (f) Unidentified maneuver group located in the same caserne as the above Signal Company. The CO was unknown.
- (g) Unknown total of zastavas: there were zastavas numbered one through nine in the 1st Komendatura, numbered 10 through 17 in the 2nd Komendatura, and numbered 18 through 23 in the 3rd Komendatura. The 20th Zastava's MUN was 2038 "M".

Other Border Guard Units

- (a) 43rd Border Guard Otryad located in an unknown area west of the 44th Otryad. [REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED] information on military classes and possible manpower reductions in military manpower.

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- (a) [REDACTED] In December 1955, soldiers from the Class of 1933 were demobilized and Class 1936 arrived. [REDACTED] the demobilization of all members of Classes 1932 and 1933 were held up about three months because of the lack of replacements. This did not apply to only certain categories of troops because all troops had to wait three months extra during the 1954 and 1955 demobilizations. [REDACTED]

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- (b) [REDACTED]

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18. [redacted] in late May or early June 1956, areas patrolled by any given patrol in the 8th Zastava were considerably reduced. This was accomplished by patrols starting two hours later at night than previously (1900 hours instead of 1700 hours) and remaining on duty eight hours instead of six. Formerly patrols guarded the border area in two shifts, one shift patrolling from 1700 hours to 2400 hours, another shift from 2400 hours to 0600 hours. The new system was directed by the Transcaucasian Military District commander. [redacted]

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